# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
# LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:141
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2002
DEPO PROVERA CONTRACEPTIVE
CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH

**Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether controversial injectable contraceptive for women Depo Provera which is officially not included in the National Family Welfare Programme is being made available to women free by the multinational companies; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

## Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA)

(a)&(b): A statement is laid on the table of the Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.141 FOR 27.11.2002

Depo-Provera, a brand of Medroxy progesterone acetate 150 mg injectable contraceptive for women is being marketed in India.In view of the apprehended side effects that the drug entails, it was not recommended for inclusion in the National Family Welfare Programme. However, since it is widely marketed in more than 100 countries, the Drug Technical Advisory Board in its meeting held on 16.2.1995 agreed for it to be marketed by the private sector. Further, an evaluation of the post marketing surveillance study of the injectable contraceptive was conducted in October, 1999 covering 1079 subjects which concluded that Depo-Provera 150 mg was a safe and effective contraceptive and that with sufficient pre-treatment counseling on the expected hormonal effects, it could be a acceptable method of contraception. As per information available, there is no instance where this injectable contraceptive is being made available to women free of cost by a Multi National Company.